Oral History Q&A Mary Ann DiLapo

1. Where were you born?

**Trenton, N.J**

1. Did your family reflect the times?

**My family was typical for the times where my parents’ marriage was pre-arranged by their parents. Thou at the time they did not love each other they lasted over 12 years.**

1. How many siblings did you have and are you the oldest?

**I'm the second oldest out of 4 siblings.**

1. How was your house growing up?

**Growing up our house was always filled with family and friends.**

1. What kind of child were you growing up?

**I was a tomboy growing up and every Sunday at my house would be fight day where my brother and I would box, my father would it all ended when I punchier his ear drum.**

1. Did you have a TV or any other technology growing up?

**We had the first black and white TV on the block. My father worked 2 jobs plus being president for 16 years with the teamsters it came with a perk, we had a private phone line.**

1. Did you outgrow the tomboy years?

**As, I became older and noticed boys, goodbye tomboy years.**

1. What did you do for entertainment as you were growing up?

**I remember going to A.C. with my girlfriend Pauline to the 500 CLUB. Now, I wasn't a drinker, but one time I had two drinks and did I pay for it. We were in the V.I.P section and Pauline kept pointing to me Frank Sinatra was next to me. I replied that's not Frank...he looked at me and went into his dressing room.**

1. Do you remember your first job?

**My 1st job was an accountant...I never had experience in this position, after a short period of time my boss said I wasn't cut out for this and instructed me to go collect unemployment....I did find my notch at IBM, after six years I had to resign because my husband to be told me his wife stays home.**

1. Did you have any children?

**I was married in 1960 and 5 years later I gave birth to my one and only**

1. Since you didn’t work what other activities were you involved in during your marriage?

**In the late 70"s I attended a charity event and was ask to help and after that night I was hooked for the Cancer Society, Heart Association, and many other organizations and clubs**

**Also during that same period, I was hired and was sent to school at Pittsburgh Beauty Academy, Dunham's Department Store hired me as there Electrolysis. It was tough being away from my family, I did it, took a plane every other week to visit and study. After my contract was up at Dunham's I opened my own Electrolysis business for the next 20 years.**

**I didn't stop in the early 80's I followed another passion I wrote an entertainment column for two local newspapers. I was lucky to interview many celebrities, including two of my favorites, Shirley MacLaine and Lucille Ball**

1. Who were the most influences in your life?

**My father along with my uncle are my greatest influences, Dad instilled my moral values and not to take no, keep fighting. My uncle was a screen writer in Hollywood and always encourages me to go after my dreams, my uncle was the one that taught me how to box when I was a little girl, my uncle Freddie a profession boxer and a contender for the lightweight division in the 20's..."**